

ABSTRACT

An apparatus for low volume dispensing of soft drinks preferably uses no mechanical refrigeration equipment, depending instead on heat transfer from a bin of ice to cool water and soft-drink syrup for beverages. A heat-exchange plate desirably includes transfer lines for incoming water to and from a carbonator. A portion of the heat exchange plate, or a second heat exchange plate, includes transfer lines for syrup and for carbonated water. The carbonated water is used to cool the syrup through the second heat exchange plate, and is also mixed with the syrup to dispense a soft drink. Heat from the incoming water and syrup is removed by melting ice in the ice bin, which may be replenished as needed.